

SOUTH AFRICAN RADIO LEAGUE

SARL NEWS SUNDAY 22 AUGUST 2004

You are listening to Amateur Radio Station ZS6SRL of the South African Radio League, the National society for Amateur Radio in South Africa, with a news bulletin that is broadcast every Sunday at 08:15 Central Africa Time (CAT) in Afrikaans and at 08:30 CAT in English.

This bulletin is also available on the website of the SARL at www.sarl.org.za, on packet bulletin boards and on echolink from Chris, ZS6FCS.

In the news today.

STATUS OF THE REGULATIONS SUBMITTED TO ICASA

YOUR SUPPORT NEEDED FOR THE SARL IARU FUND

SARL HF CW CONTEST

SARL PRESIDENT TO VISIT THE WESTERN CAPE

Stay tuned for more detail on these and other news items.

Visit the SARL Web site or call the SARL office, which is open on weekdays from 09:00 to 13:00 at 011 675 2393 for details on how to join, book sales and all related amateur radio activities.

SARL NEWS invites clubs and individuals to submit news items of interest to amateurs on the web site of the SARL, which is www.sarl.org.za/newsinbox.asp not later than the Thursday preceding the bulletin date. It would be appreciated if you could do it in both Afrikaans and English.

You are listening to ZS6SRL.

The news follows in detail.

STATUS OF THE REGULATIONS SUBMITTED TO ICASA

On 17 August, Graham, ZS6GJH, informed SARLnews that the regulations have been finalised and approved by all departments of ICASA, and were forwarded on the 12th August to the legal representative of the Department of Communications responsible for the final review. Once approved by the legal department they will be sent to the minister's office for signature. Graham says he has the undertaking of the DDG that he will help us get it through this office as soon as possible.

SARL News will keep you informed as things develop.

YOUR SUPPORT NEEDED FOR THE SARL IARU FUND

Last year the SA Amateur Radio Development Trust raised funds to pay for South Africa's membership of the International Amateur Radio Union. With the generous support of radio amateurs, clubs and industry, enough funds were raised and the membership paid. Membership fees for this year are now due.

Some R12 000 is required. R 2770 was carried over from last year. To date we have received only a few hundred rand. We thank those who have already contributed. Please send your donation now, the fees must be paid by end of August and we are still some R8000 short of the target.

The account to pay into is SA Amateur Radio Development Trust ABSA account number 560 142 722 Branch code 335-645 Menlyn Park. Please send a mail to armi@sarl.org.za advising of the deposit and your address details or a fax to 012 991 5651. We need your support.

RADIO TECHNOLOGY IN ACTION

The Radio Technology in Action program which took place yesterday at the NARC was attended by approx. 200 people. It was noticeable that it included visitors from as far as Nelspruit, Durban, Port Elizabeth, Cape Town and surely other far off centra.

The proceedings were opened by the SARL President, Graham Hartlett, ZS6GJH, who in his speech mentioned the following important items of interest: 1. A letter was received from the Department of Communication wishing the SARL well on the proceedings of the day and mentioning that it is expected that the amended regulations will soon be signed by the Minister; 2. It is planned to have regular presentations on topical subjects; 3. PLC is still the largest threat facing amateur radio and we must unite and defend the amateur radio service; 4. The cost to issue a printed version of Radio ZS will amount to approx. R70 000 per annum (Thus the more SARL members the lower the unit cost per member - Ed.); 5. The Dept. of Communication is going to establish 7 Community Radio Centres in previously disadvantaged communities and herein the radio amateurs and their organisation, the SARL, must play a leading role; 6. A science centre, SCI-BONA, will be erected in Johannesburg and 40 square metres in area had been allocated at no cost to an amateur radio exhibition.

The lecture programme then started and it featured some very exciting material, which will soon be available on the SARL web. Listen to Amateur Radio Mirror International this morning for a more detailed report on the event.

The lucky numbers for the prizes which could be won were then drawn by a visiting amateur from Japan, Kazuhisa Mitsu, JK4EEQ. The winner of the pen set is ZS6PVT, Pieter van Tonder, and the Icom 2 m transceiver went to ZS6AVP, Clive Bean. They left with large smiles. We wish Kazuhisa that the remainder of his stay in this country will be pleasant. He became aware of yesterday's activities through the web page of the SARL and decided to attend.

SARL HF CW CONTEST

The SARL HF CW Contest will be on the air next Sunday 29 August starting at 15:00 and ending at 18:00 CAT. The operating time has been shortened because of the propagation conditions and the small number of participants. Activity will take place in the band segments 14,030 to 14,060 MHz, 7,010 to 7,035 MHz

and 3,510 to 3,560 MHz. The exchange is RST and a serial number beginning with 001. The rules are available on the SARL website at www.sarl.org.za and were also sent out with HF happenings No 110.

POWER LINE COMMUNICATION

An article was published in the July Edition of Electron, the magazine of the SA Institute of Electrical Engineers pointing out the interference potential on HF as well as VHF and UHF.

The article can be found on the new SA Amateur Radio Development Trust's website at www.amateurradio.org.za. Audio file examples of what PLC sounds like can also be downloaded as well as a 3 min video showing the devastating interference PLC can cause on HF.

NOMINATIONS FOR THE RADIO AMATEUR OF THE YEAR AWARDS INVITED

The South African Amateur Radio Development Trust and Siemens Telecommunications invite nominations for the 2004 Siemens Radio Amateur of the Year Awards. There are two categories in which to nominate persons who have made a major contribution to Amateur Radio in South Africa. They are the Radio Amateur of the Year Award and the Young Radio Amateur of the Year Award. The first category is an open one while the second category is limited to nominees under 25 years of age. The winners will each receive a cash prize of R1000 and a certificate. Winners outside the Gauteng area will be provided with a return air ticket and accommodation.

The awards are recognising technical innovation and the promotion and development of Amateur Radio. Activities such as arranging a public event or a DXpedition qualify for nomination. However, the awards are not made for personal achievements such as winning a contest or a DXCC. To get nomination forms send an email to [saardt@intekom.co.za](mailto:saaardt@intekom.co.za) . Nominations close on 30 September 2004. Nomination forms are available for download from the new SA Amateur Radio Development Trust Website at www.amateurradio.org.za.

SASOL TECHNO-X 2004

From 23 to 28 August, SASOL will be hosting their annual Science and Technology faire at Sasolburg. The aim is to expose schoolchildren to science and technology in as many practical ways as possible. This is the fourth year Techno-X is hosted by SASOL. The Sasolburg Amateur Radio Club will once again represent the SARL at this event. They will have a special call sign ZS4SRL for this event.

ZA1ARC ACTIVE FROM THE LATSKY RADIO MUSEUM

The Adventure Radio Club will operate as ZS1ARC from the Latsky Radio Museum in Vanrhynsdorp on Saturday 28 August 2004. The special event takes place during the annual regional Meat Festival in nearby Calvinia. George Latsky, the museum owner and curator, will be interviewed in a live transmission

with SSTV images of the proceedings and the museum. The interview takes place on 7,055 MHz at 09:30 and the SSTV transmissions commence after the interview.

WEST RAND BOOT SALE

The West Rand Amateur Radio Club will host a boot sale on Saturday 4th September at 12:00 SAST. The venue will be the WRARC clubhouse in Kroton Street, Weltevredenpark. Please note that due to popular demand the gates will open at 12:00. For more information, please contact Dave, ZR6AOC, on 083 449 8991. We are looking forward to seeing you and your friends there.

SARL PRESIDENT TO VISIT THE WESTERN CAPE

SARL President, Graham Hartlett ZS6GJH, has received an invitation from the Boland Amateur Radio Club and will be visiting the Western Cape on 18 September. The BARC will be holding a meeting on this day and it was decided to invite the SARL President to attend the meeting.

BARC extends an invitation to ALL amateurs who are members of any of the radio clubs in the Western Cape or SARL members to attend the meeting. The meeting starts at 11:00 at the Nature Reserve of the Boland Agriculture School near Paarl. Following the meeting there will be a chance for socialising around the barbecue fires.

SA AMATEUR TECHNOLOGY INSTITUTE.

The SAATI annual general meeting is being planned for Saturday 25 September at the Alkanrant Association of Clubs' premises at the corner of Lynburn and Meiring Naude Roads. It will take the form of a bring and braai and will start at 12:00 noon. Please advise either Richard, ZR6CK, at 012-333-0612 or Ams, ZS6YV, at 012-664-3629 of your intention to attend. Discussion will centre on the route forward.

PROPAGATION REPORT

Propagation conditions are up and down again. Since the 12th August the sunspot numbers have decreased to 74,4 after the high of 105,9 last week. We have the coming summer on our side, which could improve conditions with later openings in the evenings. A disadvantage is the increase in noise levels especially during thunderstorm activity.

Wind from the sun varied in speed from 325 to 368 km/sec. Son activity was moderate during the past week. No inflow of corona mass towards earth was observed. A corona opening may appear on the surface of the sun on the 22nd with accompanying active conditions. Conditions on the 20 m band as well as the 15 m band (especially to the East) should be relatively good and even the 10 m band may present DX opportunities.

CLUB NEWS

At the AGM of the Highway Amateur Radio Club, which was held on 17 August, the following members were elected to the committee:

Chairman: Edwin Musto, ZS5BBO; Vice Chairman: Lawry Hauf, ZS5HV; Secretary: Tony Mayall, ZS5GR; Treasurer: Anne Bean, ZS5FAB; Committee Members: Keith Lowes, ZS5WFD, Eric Mawhinney, ZS5EWM, Dave Holiday, ZR5CW and Sean Pritchard, ZR5SEP.

Also at the meeting, the HARC Contest Committee was chosen, led by Derek Gravett, ZS5Y, with members: Lee ZS5LEE, Mike ZR5ADQ.

Many thanks to the outgoing committee for services well rendered and strength to the new committee for the work that lies ahead.

DIARY OF EVENTS AND REMINDERS

22 August: Last opportunity to contact stations at lighthouses; 23/28 August: Sasol Techno-X takes place and ZS4SRL on the air; 27/29 August: ZS1ARC on the air from the Latsky Radio Museum; 29 August: SARL Presidents Net and SARL HF CW Contest 4 September: West Rand Amateur Club to hold a boot sale; 2 October: Flea Market at the East Rand Radio Club; Pay SARL membership fees; Contribute to the fund initiated by the SA Amateur Radio Development Trust for the SARL's IARU membership; Send articles for Radio ZS to radiozs@sarl.org.za;

The SARL invites you to listen to Amateur Radio Mirror International on 17 815, 9 750, and 7 082 kHz and 145,625 MHz in East London, 145,650 in Durban 145,750 MHz in Pretoria and 438,800 in the Sandton area. A repeat broadcast can be heard on Mondays at 21:00 CAT on 3 215 kHz.

Telkom and Sentech sponsor ARMI.

This then brings us to the end of today's bulletin, which was compiled by Dennis, ZS4BS, and read byfrom..... as a service to radio amateurs, short wave listeners and electronic enthusiasts.

You have been listening to ZS6SRL and thank you for having joined us. Also many thanks to those persons who supply news for our bulletins and the amateurs who relay the bulletins so regularly.

Goodbye everyone.

/EX